

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0254

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, CY, TU, GR

SUBJ: GOC POSITION ON RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATION

REF: NICOSIA 0236

1. AT A DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION JANUARY 26, CLERIDES MADE A SPECIAL POINT OF TAKING BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER GORDON AND ME ASIDE TO INFORM US OF THE FOLLOWING:

A. HE HAD SEEN MAKARIOS THAT MORNING TO DISCUSS GOC ATTITUDE TOWARD TURKISH CONDITIONS REGARDING RESUMPTION. MAKARIOS FELT THIS REQUIRED DISCUSSION WITH NATIONAL COUNCIL/ COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND HAS CALLED A MEETING FOR JAN 28. CLERIDES WILL CONVEY THE RESULTS OF THIS TO UN SYG SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE DE CUELLAR JAN 29.

B. GOC POSITION REGARDING VIENNA IS FIRM ON TWO POINTS: (1) THERE MUST BE SOME AGREEMENT ON BROAD PRINCIPLES BETWEEN CLERIDES AND DENKTASH BEFORE SUBSTANCE IS DEVOLVED TO SUB-COMMITTEES; (2) CLERIDES WILL BE UNDER STRICT INJUNCTION NOT TO ACCEPT A VIENNA COMMUNIQUE THAT IN ANY WAY DECEIVES PUBLIC OPINION. GOC DOES NOT YET HAVE A FIRM
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POSITION ON ANOTHER ASPECT. IN VIENNA, CLERIDES

WANTS TO HAND OVER GREEK TERRITORIAL PROPOSAL
AND TELL DENKTASH HE CAN CONSIDER IT AT LEISURE,
THEN PROCEED TO DISCUSSION OF FEDERATION AN CENTRAL
GOVERNMENT POWERS. MAKARIOS OPPOSES THIS, ARGUING
THAT IF DENKTASH IS UNWILLING TO DISCUSS TERRITORY
IN VIENNA, CLERIDES SHOULD REFUSE TO CONSIDER THE
OTHER SUBJECTS. THIS DIFFERENCE OF VIEW WILL BE AIRED
IN JAN 28 NATIONAL COUNCIL/COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING.

2. COMMENT: BASIS FOR MAKARIOS' POSITION SEEMS CLEAR: HE
DOES NOT WANT HIS SIDE TO LEND ITSELF TO AN UNREAL
APPEARANCE OF PROGRESS. CLERIDES IS MORE CONCERNED
TO SEIZE EVEN THE SLIGHTEST OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVANCING
CONSIDERATION OF SUBSTANCE. CLERIDES' PURPOSEFUL
APPROACH TO BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER AND ME SEEMS DESIGNED
TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR HIS POINT OF VIEW ALTHOUGH HE
MUST KNOW THERE IS LITTLE WE CAN EFFECTIVELY DO TO OFFSET
THE LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR DISCUSSION WHICH IS
INEVITABLE IN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL/COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
CONTEXT.
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